

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

Attendees: Attorney General John Suthers, Lori Moriarty, José Esquibel, Tim Griffin, Leslie Herod, Nick Taylor, Stan Hilkey, Tom Quinn, Drew DeMarie, Jade Thomas, Wayne Maxwell, Erin Goff, Laura Russmann, Chele Clark, Greg Daniels, Debra Campeau

Guests: Barbara Ezyk, Dorian Wilson, Christine Agosta, Ben Cort, Scott Strode, Eric Rodwell, Julia Roguski, Vong Luangphaxay, Jacki Subberra

Review and Approval of the Minutes: Minutes were approved from the May 23, 2008 with some minor corrections.

Announcements from the Task Force Members:

Attorney General John Suthers:

The Montana Meth Project has made overtures for implementing the Colorado Meth Project. Representatives of the Montana Meth Project met with staff from the Daniels Fund and other local foundations. \$2.5 million dollars has been earmarked for the Colorado Meth Project. Currently, a 501(c)(3) is being created as well as a board for this 501(c)(3). Attorney General Suthers will be on the board. An Executive Director will be hired in the next month. January 2009 is the start date for coordinating the campaign in Colorado. Colorado will be the 7th state in which this type of campaign is launched.

Tom Quinn:

"Senate Bill 03-318 created a fund of \$2.2 million each year for drug treatment for offenders. Local teams in each judicial district, which are made up of a probation officer, a prosecutor, and a defense attorney, administer the funds. The teams decide which gaps need to be filled and which services added or expanded. In late June 2008 there was a conference of these local teams to hear from state and national experts in the areas of treatment and collaboration. The training was well received, and a follow up survey shows that additional training and team building is needed at the local level.

Leslie Herod:

Applications are still being reviewed for appointments to the Child Action Committee. The Committee members are expected to be appointed soon.

Stan Hilkey:

Data indicates that meth use is down in the Grand Junction area but cocaine use is up, which is expected. There has been a drop in crime, arrests, and property damage. *The Daily Sentinel* in Grand Junction ran two articles the subject of meth— *Crackdown On Meth Has Made Cocaine Cheaper*, and *Drug Programs Are Making A Difference*.

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

Dr. Nick Taylor:

Regarding the Delta Project, the local court is up and running and going well. The Delta Project is working with Bert Singleton on enhancing coordination of support services through funds from the Access to Recovery grant. The board of the Delta Meth Task Force voted to form a 501(c)(3) to coordinate access to treatment and the support services in the region. Dr. Taylor will write something about this for the Colorado DEC website. Dr. Taylor was in Durango (La Plata County) meeting with county court representatives interested in establishing a family court. He will also have the same discussion in Montezuma County.

ATR has provided the opportunity to help people in treatment meet these needs but accessing ATR from a Western Slope Community that was far from the administrative core of ATR in Denver and in Colorado Springs. Meth Free Delta County (MFDC) took advantage of a unique opportunity to partner with ATR administrators to help provide these services to Delta County residents. MFDC is a non-profit organization that was formed in 2007 specifically for the purpose of helping community members throughout Delta county to work together to help prevention the causes of drug use, to help those currently addicted to drugs and to help protect the community from the ravages of drug use. The community based treatment protect has been a major focus of MFDC and so investment was high from the community leaders involved to explore ways in which ATR recovery support services could be implanted in Delta County.

The figures show that meth users are using the ATR services and Colorado is receiving attention at the federal level because the way our State is connecting the SBIRT initiative (substance abuse screening in health settings) with the ATR grant.

Wayne Maxwell:

The important news from Weld and Larimer Counties is that as of July 1, 2008, the publicly funded mental health treatment and substance abuse treatment services in both counties are fully integrated at all levels. This came as a result of the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of Island Grove Regional Treatment Center to dissolve and integrate its operations in Weld County with those of North Range Behavioral Health, and to integrate its operations in Larimer County with those of Larimer Center for Mental Health. This decision was reached in recognition of the overwhelming evidence showing that treatment services for individuals with co-occurring disorders are most effective when they are provided in an integrated setting, and that integrated services are most efficiently provided when they are provided under the auspices of a single provider agency.

Debra Campeau:

Eric Rodwell has been working on the 4th Annual Methamphetamine Symposium on September 25th and 26th. The event will be held at the Air Force Academy (Arnold Hall). Attorney General Suthers will do the welcome speech each day. Drew DeMaria and Jade

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

Thomas from Colorado DEC will conduct a question and answer session and Bert Singleton will discuss the Access to Recovery grant.

Vice Chair Moriarty:

Last month, during discussions with people in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, it was mentioned that these states are now experiencing a rise in meth labs. In the past month, Pennsylvania has had 12 meth labs busted with the arrest of 30 or more people. Law enforcement is discovering that meth makers have found a way to get around the tracking system of ingredients from pharmacies. They are using their networks of drug users to buy the necessary ingredients. The users are finding out that there is not a tracking system in place of who buys what, where and when.

There is a tracking system out there; Stan Hilkey has the information about this. The system can track who buys what and where. It can be set up to deny access to a person who buys a lot of a certain drug. The system is a vendor-based system and we have to get the vendors to invest in the system.

Crystal Darkness – Film and campaign

Michael Reynolds and Paul Penzone

Background – Crystal Darkness was started about a year ago in Nevada. The project originally showed just 1 or 2 minutes of the film on the television. This was not enough time to capture the audiences' attention so they met with all the general managers of the different local area television stations and all the stations in northern Nevada. At this meeting they asked for a commitment to run the *Crystal Darkness* program on all stations on the same day at the same time. The process was amazing; all stations agreed to do this on January 7th from 6:30pm to 7:00pm and each station starting will be running their own campaigns to get the viewers to watch their station. Talk radio shows discussed the pro and cons of the programs prior to the airing and again after the show was broadcasted. The entire northern Nevada area watched the television show. The showing received very high television ratings. Since than other states have done the same thing using Nevada's approach, including Oregon, some areas in California, New Mexico and Arizona. There was a place in Mexico that also showed the documentary. There are different phases to this project; phase one is the showing of the video.

Mark Cornetta from KUSA, Denver, is on the Board of Broadcasters and became aware of this exciting event from a sister station in AZ. Some of the stations in Colorado have committed their television stations to airing a Colorado version on *Crystal Darkness* on January 9, 2009. NE Colorado is willing to do this presentation. Mark Cornetta contacted the Daniels Fund for support and Daniels Fund recommended that Mark contact Lori Moriarty.

There is a need for a volunteer coordinator to spearhead the Crystal Darkness Campaign in Colorado. This campaign will take a great deal of time and effort by the leaders to make this a

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

successful event. There is already interest from the TV stations to do this project. In fact the local, PBS affiliate wants to broadcast an after show event.

Comments and feedback on the video:

The Daniels Fund did recommend local experts recommend the necessary changes to the video in order to better address the issues in Colorado. The executive team that will be formed to lead this project will have the authority tailor the production using Colorado data and Colorado citizens. The production crew will come here and film the leaders of the community, prevention specialist, providers, users, people in recovery, etc. This will be Colorado owned; however, the creators try to keep the approach the same as the original video. Education and intervention is the key to this effort of addressing the use of meth.

Paul Penzone is a former Arizona meth task force officer and is willing to discuss what is entailed in the efforts to create the production. He will help do what he can to assist Colorado in getting this campaign started.

Comments:

- Debra – After viewing this, it is easier for everyone to think this is not about my family or me. The main point is that it can happen to you. The cycle of a family's addiction is another key focus; this is a strong point to keep in mind.
- Nick – If we create this for Colorado what is the process? Do you work with local community leaders? This is a community effort; you have to have the communities support to do this.
 - Michael— The local team comes in to help create the production. The community sets up the interviews, the people to talk to, the prisoners and whatever else the community would like us to do. On occasion, we will add the lines that we think need to be in this. If we need to add the cultural pieces we try to do this. We really want local people featured. There is a leader, co-chair, committees, sub committees and we create an infrastructure to do this. A grassroots infrastructure will be created during this process. In Colorado we already have a lot of this in place. The real key to this is getting as many local affiliates to broadcast this production at the same time across the state.
 - We find that the energy that the local grassroots generate in doing this is amazing. This is what makes this work. We have notice that this brings the community closer together and creates a powerful statement for all to build on.
 - Phase II is currently being worked on. We will be going back to the communities that Phase I was shown in. We are creating a Parent toolkit based on data from 300 hours of talking to the parents, addicts and law enforcement officers. This toolkit is for the parents. It will be an educational piece about 30 minutes long. We are hoping to get this toolkit into every parent's hand. Before it airs everyone thinks it

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

is a school or law enforcement problem but afterwards, it opens the communities' eyes and a number of things happened.

- How come violence wasn't addressed more? The New Mexico video does have the violence piece in it.
Michael— It really depends on what the communities want and what issues they want addressed. We are aware that 28 minutes is not enough time to state everything, but 28 minutes does open up everyone's mind for the educational needs to address these issues.
- Vice Chair Esquibel discussed the Colorado Blueprint and how this may work with this group. The Blueprint is our plan for a long term addressing this.
- Michael— What you didn't see is the work done ahead of the presentation for the radio show and tv shows that can be available to discuss all this. This would be a get place to bring up the Blueprint.
 - You will find that billboards will be donated to the cause, the radio stations will take about the show, the promotion ahead of time is very important. You will receive a number of in-kind offers to get help to this.
- Where are you in Colorado in terms of support?
 - Michael— The cost is \$150,000. We recommend that you print flyers to pass out to the schools. The recovery addicts will help. Have a VIP luncheon and bring all the leaders together. There is an optional for about 1/3 in kind. The TV station is the biggest part of in-kind.
 - We don't have a committee yet here in Colorado. We need a leader to organize the committee and start the ball rolling. The TV stations are already on board.
 - There are tools built for the leaders to start with. We have a best practice toolkit ready to go forward. There is a lot of work to have this done. The group will be speaking through the entire state.
- Scott Strobe – Sacramento one is the better videos because it shows the people piece. There are users that are across the spectrum. The community connection is needed to this piece. It would be nice to see the users in the early stage and also in the later stages of the addiction. The help line needs some work. We need to build this up this part of this. The help line really needs to be connected to the right people and the right resources. Good idea we could also hook this up with ATR funds. We must have a place for them to go when they call for help.
- Vice Chair Moriarty – If you have ideas, suggestions, or any data to share, send the information to Drew and Jade. Also, if you have an idea of who should be the leader/volunteer coordinator, send those to Drew and Jade as well.
- The leader should be someone who wants to do this and have significant amount of time available to do the work.

Data Discussions: Co-Chair José Esquibel

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

The Data Committee is working with staff of OMNI, as well as with Jade and Drew. The data report from 2006 is already out of date. The community and the learning sites have met and these groups have identified additional data indicators that are on the handout.

The sub group of the Colorado DEC wants to focus on identifying indicators relevant for drug endangered children. Currently, there is no uniform data collected for drug endangered children. This group is still looking at the indicators and what to focus on. OMNI will be creating a toolkit for the learning communities to assist with accessing indicator data from various state sources.

The comprehensive data committee is looking at collaboration. This is an issue that still needs to be looked at. We are also looking at the 9 elements that are on the list, what else do we need to look at?

Laura can gather data for the house realty markets in Colorado Springs under miscellaneous. Have OMNI get in touch with Laura Russman.

If you know of any other relevant data sources, please contact Vice Chair Esquibel. He will email out a revised version of the list of data that we will be looking at for the next State Meth Task Force Data Report.

Through a prevention grant known as the Colorado Prevention Partners, work has been done in partnership with OMNI on creating an online database that can be by local groups and individuals to access population-based health and social indicator data from multiple state departments and other sources. The updated ASPIRE system is scheduled to be available online by the end of September 2008.

Once questions to consider is how to institute a means for bringing substance abuse and meth data from different source into the ASPIRE system. The beneficiaries of this data access are local groups and individuals who can make use of data for assessments and planning. Is there a way to set up a continuum of data entry into a substance abuse/meth toolkit as part of ASPIRE.

Here are 3 key questions about data for the State Meth Task Force.

What do you see as our responsibility for data?

1. Setting up the framework to keep the ASPIRE system updated.
2. Learning sites will grow and they need a baseline for what they are attempting to change and the data needs to show them the baseline. The current data is there but how do they use the data to show the changes it has made? This would also show our growth.
3. We need to lay a foundation for the data to be available after this committee is gone. Where do you get the data and how does it stay current?

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

4. Will the data committee still exist after this Task Force goes away? Perhaps we create some agreements from all involved that the data will continue to be gathered and entered.
5. One of our charges is legislation. One to consider is recommending legislation with a fiscal note
6. There is room for thinking about MOUs and agreements to share all the data. Let's look at how we get this group behind this.
7. The Governor's crime group is also talking about the importance of data. Contact can be made with Ken Wier, who is the chair.
8. Capturing data is a huge. Who else is interested in data sharing? In addition to the Governor's Crime group, there is the Colorado Prevention Leadership Council
9. The Governor is also looking at data collection issues.

If you have data people that may be interested in contributing to our data report or any other aspect related to data sharing, have them contact Vice Chair Esquibel.

Review of Quarterly Activities and Funding

Karan Goldsberry is the new website master and she previewed the new website. Some of the items that are listed:

- Links on the main page
- There are 6 different pages for the meth task force to post their information.
- The State Meth Task Force Annual Report can be posted
- The Community Resource Assessment reports can be posted
- Process reports can be posted
- Jade would like all the old data and presentations from the meth task force so these can be posted as well.

An email will be sent to each Task Force Member for reviewing and determining what other information may be needed. We are two months out from a soft launch and four months out from a live launch. You can get to this site again with the link that Jade and Drew sent out. This site also links to National DEC.

Learning Sites

We have 13 communities, but what about the rest of the state? There are other communities asking for assistance. What about a Colorado Meth Conference?

Funding update – Drew has outlined what has been done and what else is to be done. Should a recommendation from this group be sent to have the state general fund money go to this project?

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

Legislation

Some states are passing or considering legislation that punished pregnant mothers who use meth. There is interest in putting together a position paper for Colorado legislators discouraging this approach. Dr. Wells wrote a two-page paper to facilitate discussion among Task Force members. Vice Chair Moriarty will send out the paper for all to review. Is anyone interested in being part of a legislation committee? Karen Mooney and Kathy Wells are currently interested in being part of this committee. Tim Griffin is interested in participating on the committee, and Dr. Taylor has a name to add to the committee.

Some states have it in their legislation that all mothers are tested for drug use. In Colorado, hospitals have their own regulations. It would be great if our state had a standardize way to look at this issue.

Best Practices

Regarding best practices in each discipline, we need like to collect information from all groups. We tried a survey prior and found out this wasn't the way to go. We will start collecting the best practice from your disciplines. We would like to get this on the new Web site. We would also like to get this into the annual report.

National DEC is also looking at this issue. Homework with a deadline, we need to focus on this before the last of the 8 meetings.

It was recommended that here be a set deadline with specific instructions.

The Task Force members agreed that the deadline for accomplishing this is effort– December 31, 2008.

We will need to provide guideline paper from our office to send out so that we get some consistency in all responses.

Send out the Template –

Who are the players? What is the cost? What is involved?

Maybe it is parts of the CRA? What other data? Lets do this at the next vice chair meeting.

Jade will collect and catalog data.

Next Meeting:

September 26, 2008

Colorado Municipal League

1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO

Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force
July 25, 2008
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO
10:00 a.m. – 1:00

FINAL

10:00 a.m.– 1:00